

March 7, 1983

PRESIDENT MCGINLEY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: This morning our Chaplain is Dr. Robert Palmer.

DR. PALMER: Prayer offered.

PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Members please record their presence, roll call. Members, please record your presence. Members please record their presence. Members please record their presence. The Clerk will record the roll.

CLERK: There is a quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: A quorum present, the Legislature is in session. This morning we have a special presentation and it will be handled by Senator Shirley Marsh first. Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, colleagues. I am very proud to tell you that this is Women's History Week. Last week on Thursday the Governor of our state signed a proclamation stating that the week of March 7-12 is Women's History Week. We will be bringing you a minute each morning of the day and I am very pleased and proud to present Senator Pat Morehead from Beatrice for your first presentation on Women's History Week. Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Thank you, Senator Marsh. Mr. President, I am pleased today to be able to read about a lady from the town where I live, Beatrice. Clara Dorothy Bewick Colby, born 1846, died 1916. Clara Dorothy Bewick Colby, author, editor, lecturer, championed the cause of feminism and women's suffrage for forty years. She said of equal rights, "It is a matter of simple justice." Her involvement began in Beatrice, Nebraska, where in 1883 she founded and published the Woman's Tribune which became the official paper for the National Woman's Suffrage Association. Born in England, she came to this country as a child and was graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1869. In 1872 she and her attorney husband, Leonard Wright Colby moved to Beatrice. There she helped establish the Free Public Library and initiated a series of lectures bringing people like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Katie Stanton to Beatrice. In 1881 she helped organize the Nebraska Woman's Suffrage Association and served as its president from 1885-1889. Clara B. Colby actively participated in promoting suffrage for women in other states. She testified before state Legislatures and Congressional committees promoting equal rights for women. When her husband became Assistant Attorney General of the United States she transferred the Woman's Tribune to Washington, D.C., where she continued publication until 1904 when she moved it to Portland, Oregon. In 1906 Clara, who then had a change in her lifestyle, found